

please enter this amendment 5/8/08 /Sang Y. Paik/

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENT

APPLICANT: Andrea CASERTA et al. EXAMINER: Sang Y. PAIK
SERIAL NO.: 10/511,191 GROUP ART UNIT: 3742
FILING DATE: April 27, 2005 CONFIRMATION NO.: 6955
INVENTION: ACTIVE SUBSTANCE EVAPORATOR

Via Facsimile to: 571-273-4783

Commissioner for Patents
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SIR:

Following are proposed claim amendments to address the issues raised by the Examiner via telephone on May 5, 2008. As discussed with the Examiner via telephone today, May 8, 2008, the term "housing" has been replaced by "recess", which are provided as alternate terms in the specification, for instance in paragraph [0018], line 8. Consideration of the proposed amendments is requested. If there are any questions about the claims, contact Melvin Robinson at: 312-258-5785.

1-6. (cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) An evaporator device for active substances, comprising: a base body in which is integrated a plug for direct connection to an electrical power supply; a circuit comprising a PTC heating resistance connected to the integrated plug that is configured to act on a heating surface near which is placed an active substance; ~~wherein~~ the base body further comprises a removable and slidable support for the active substance, the support comprising first and second recesses, said first recess being two

~~housings, respectively adapted in size and shape to a first type of container two different types of containers of the active substance substances and the second recess being adapted in size and shape to a second type of container of the active substance, said first and second types of containers being of different sizes, the first type of container of the active substance containers being a tablet and the second type of container of the active substance being a tray with a semi permeable membrane, so that the evaporator device can equally receive either type of container of the active substance.~~

8. (previously presented) The evaporator device for active substances, as claimed in claim 7, wherein the base body is U-shaped, the base body comprising a rear portion and front portion, the front portion comprising aeration grilles, and the support fitting between the rear portion and front portion of the base body which, in an assembled position, establishes a surface continuity with the base body and the housings for the tablet and tray are in a position adjacent to the heating surface.

9. (previously presented) The evaporator device for active substances, as claimed in claim 7, further comprising:
a pattern made with thermochrome paint applied directly on the base body or on a complementary support attached to said base body, wherein the pattern changes colour at a temperature under which physical contact with the device is considered to be no longer dangerous.

10. (previously presented) The evaporator device for active substances, as claimed in claim 7, further comprising:
a safety mechanism that makes it difficult to slide and thereby open the support containing the tablet or tray of the active substance with respect to the base body, the safety mechanism comprising teeth established in a front end of lateral walls of the support which, in a closed position, lock against complementary locking teeth provided for this

purpose in the inner part of the base body, preventing the displacement towards an extraction position of the support.

11. (previously presented) The evaporator device for active substances, as claimed in claim 10, wherein a side surface of the base body and near an area where the locking teeth are established has corresponding areas which, when pressed manually inwards and by the ensuing deformation, allow releasing the teeth from the complementary locking teeth and thereby also releasing the support, allowing it to move to the extraction position.

12. (previously presented) The evaporator device for active substances, as claimed in claim 10, wherein the lateral walls of the support comprise protrusions which, in the position of extraction of the support, limit the extraction by contacting other protrusions provided for such purpose in inner walls as sliding guides for the support.

13. (Currently Amended) The evaporator device for active substances, as claimed in claim 7, wherein the two recesses housings are of ~~[[a]]~~ different sizes ~~[[size]]~~.

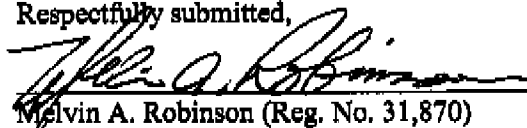
14. (Currently Amended) The evaporator device for active substances, as claimed in claim 13, wherein one of the two recesses housings is located inside of the other of the two recesses housings.

15. (Currently Amended) The evaporator device for active substances, as claimed in claim 13, wherein the containers of the active substances are of different sizes that correspond in shape respectively to the two recesses housings that are of ~~[[a]]~~ different sizes ~~[[size]]~~.

16. (Currently Amended) The evaporator device for active substances, as claimed in claim 13, wherein the two recesses housings are ~~designed to be capable of holding two~~ different containers simultaneously.

17. (Currently Amended) The evaporator device for active substances, as claimed in claim 7, wherein an inner surface of the two recesses ~~housings~~ is generally a same shape as outer surfaces of the containers that the recesses ~~housings~~ hold.

Respectfully submitted,



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